

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!

Join The Alexandria Child Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria in raising awareness of how to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect. During the month of April we are partnering together to provide free training for parents, child-serving professionals, and community members **who live or work in the City of Alexandria.**



Become a Steward of Children and Prevent Child Sexual Abuse. Learn how you can protect children in your life from child sexual abuse. Research shows that **1 in 10 children** will be **sexually abused** before they turn 18. The reality is sobering, but there is hope because **child sexual abuse can be prevented.** Authorized facilitators with direct experience working with child abuse victims right here in the City of Alexandria will lead interactive sessions of Darkness to Light's **Stewards of Children** training. Participants will learn what adults and organizations should do to protect children from sexual abuse in our community.

Two *Stewards of Children* sessions will be offered:

- Wednesday, April 6th 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 20th 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Respond Responsibly to Child Abuse and Neglect. Do you know what to do if you suspect a child has been abused? How to recognize the signs of abuse and neglect? Do you know your legal obligations as a mandated reporter of child abuse and neglect? Learn from Alexandria Child Protective Services about how to recognize, react and respond responsibly to child abuse and neglect.

Two *Mandated Reporter* training sessions will be offered:

- Friday, April 1st 9:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Thursday April 14th 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Bystanders Protecting Children from Boundary Violations and Sexual Abuse. This course will teach you how to be an active bystander in child sexual abuse prevention and response. In this training, you will learn what it means to be an active bystander. You will receive examples of boundary violations and inappropriate behaviors and how you can make spontaneous and planned interventions that reinforce boundaries and protect children. This training is a supplemental module of Stewards of Children that provides more in-depth information and skill training. Completion is a Stewards of Children training is recommended prior to participating in this training, but it is not required.

- Monday, April 25th 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

All trainings are free and open to anyone who lives, works, or volunteers in the City of Alexandria.

Registration is required at <http://protectalexkids.eventbrite.com>.

Refreshments will be provided. Certificates of completion are also available for all trainings.

For additional information contact Susan@AlexandriasKids.org.

The Child Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria is comprised of organizations working together to raise awareness and end child abuse in the City of Alexandria. The members of the coalition are SCAN of Northern Virginia, Healthy Families Alexandria (Northern Virginia Family Service), Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services, and the Center for Alexandria's Children.